



NEWS FROM THE HAWAII STATE NUMISMATIC ASSOCIATION AND THE HONOLULU COIN CLUB

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A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY

By Irving Kam

As we embark into the last year of this millennium, gold is still buoyed under the three hundred dollar mark and holding. News items of a Presidential impeachment, Y2K over-reaction, a lackluster Asian economy, and even renewed confrontations with Iraq has had no significant or lasting influence on its price index either way. After the descent to a new bottom in August of 1998, the lowest close in many years, more numismatic possibilities have become available, attainable and affordable.

One such area of interest is gold coins of the world priced under a hundred dollars. The diversity of designs and topics is simply amazing and it seems the more you look, the more you find. A good place as any to start is with the Mexico 2, 2 1/2, and 5 pesos, with the latter two featuring the bust of Miguel Hidalgo. All are of the same fineness as United States gold coins and easily located on the bourse floor. The British half-sovereigns and sovereigns, first issued in 1817, offer a wide array of dates, types, and mint marks to choose from. Of particular interest is the four Queen Victoria pieces known as the Veiled Head type (1893-1901), Jubilee type (1887-1892), Young Head type (1871-1885) and Young Head type/Shield Reverse (1838-1874). Victoria ruled Great Britain and Ireland from 1837 to 1901 and garnered such enormous popularity that this entire segment of British history is now known as the Victorian Era. The French 20 franc series is a historical journey unto itself and is widely associated with its Angels (1871-1898) and its Roosters (1899 - 1914).

Remarkably, ads in hobby publications occasionally offer the early coinage of Napoleon

I Laureates, Louis XVIII military bust, Louis Phillipe, Ceres, and Napoleon III, (1807-1870), in extra fine condition for well under the budget. Other nations that belonged to the European Monetary Union besides France that issued affordable gold includes Switzerland 10 and 20 francs (1911-1935), Belgium Leopold II 20 francs (1867-1882) and the Italy Victor Emmanuelle II (1861-1878) and Umberto I (1879-1897) 20 lira coins.

More possible additions may include the Venezuelan 20 bolivares (1879-1912), Cuban 2 or 5 pesos (1915-1916), Columbian 2 1/2 or 5 pesos (1919-1930), Hungary 20 korona (1892-1915), Russian Czar Nicholas II 5 ruble (1897-1911), Prussian Wilhelm II 20 mark (1890-1913), Swedish 5 or 10 kroners (1873-1925), Tunisian 20 franc (1891-1904), Finland 10 markkaa (1878-1913), Netherlands 10 gulden (1876-1933), and the Denmark 10 kroner (1873-1917).

Modern world commemoratives are also plentiful and oftentimes low mintage/high catalog value issues are offered at really favorable prices. Bullion related fractionals (a fraction of an ounce) is another option to consider and probably the easiest to encounter. America has its Eagles, South Africa the Krugerrands, Isle of Man the Angels and Cats, Canada its Maple Leafs, China the Pandas, Austria the Philharmonics, Singapore its Lions, Great Britain the Britannias, and Australia has its Kangaroos, Nuggets, Rats and Oxes.

A little bit of diligence and curiosity will bear out that the aforementioned is just a small sampling of what is currently available. The majority of the the earlier gold pieces can be located with a net grade of extra fine while a

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good many will be in various states of uncirculated.

Of course, properly represented problem free coins should always typify the constant standard.

A bargain can only be measured by time but suppressed bullion prices have made literally dozens of different coins that contain a quarter of an ounce or less of the yellow ore at least a very reasonable buy.

Aloha! Pau.

Much mahalo to the members of the Monday morning crew for their always appreciated extra effort. There is still lots of work to be done the day after the H.S.N.A. convention and a lot less people to do it. Thanks to: Irving Kam, Marion Kendrick, Charlie Matsuda, Crane Saito, Henry Sakata, Francis Ushiroda, Wah Kui Young, and Paul Luke.

HSNA CONVENTION

By Helen L. Carmody Lebo

The Hawaii State Numismatic Association held its 35th anniversary convention November 12-15 at the Queen Kapiolani Hotel on Oahu. The paid attendance of 1,100 was slightly down from last year. The 49 table (60 dealer) bourse offered inventory desired by collectors and mainland and local dealers alike. Dealer to dealer trading was most successful but collectors who came to the show obviously were looking to add elusive pieces to their collections. Numismatists look forward to this annual event because it is usually their one opportunity to purchase fresh material from the 48 contiguous states and benefiting from dealers' expertise they so willingly share.

Richard N. Nachbar of Richard Nachbar Rare Coins, Williamsville, (NY), remarked, "As expected, the highly club-oriented Hawaii show was extremely well run and well attended this year. Business was moderate, as has been the trend for the past few years, but there are signs of a pickup in the local economy, and the prospects for the next year look even better."

Bill Bright of Cedar Rapids, (IA), said, "It has been a very good show--both buying and selling. I certainly intend to come back next year. One of the reasons I come to this show is the outstanding manner in which it is run."

A 35 year participant of the show, Gene Henry of Gene L. Henry, Inc., Seattle, (WA), stated, "We are in a better coin market this year than last. U.S. gold coins are hot and silver dollars are even hotter. Common gold coins are up 20% and circulated dollars are up 35%. All this has caused a fresh turnover among dealers, which makes a very interesting and profitable coin market."

Francis Loo of Honolulu, (HI), said, "This show has been a very pleasant surprise. We had fewer dealers from the mainland visiting with us, but that helped to make business better because competition was less. Public attendance was about the same as prior years, despite the Hawaiian economy, but participation was at a

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HSNA CONVENTION

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high level. We were very fortunate to have high level representatives from the ANA and Krause Publications at our show, despite the conflict with the Baltimore convention. This shows that HSNA has national recognition as a numismatic event.

Jim Simek of Rarcoa, Willowbrook, (IL), commented, "We were very much pleased with the results of the show. Business was not quite as brisk as in previous years, but there were enough buyers and sellers to keep us busy during the show hours. As usual, the show organizers were friendly and helpful and we look forward to coming back for many years."

James Hart of Hart Rare Coins and Collectibles, Kirkland, (WA), said, "The show was very active in coins below \$100. There were collectors filling books, not investors. Security was excellent as usual and the hospitality is wonderful here."

George Eggimann of Eggimann's Rare Coins, Rogue River, (OR), commented, "The buying was great at the show. The selling was slow. However, I always have fun here and I intend to come back next year."

Don King of Windward Coins, Kailua, (HI), stated, "The HSNA show started out slowly, but the coin collectors were very knowledgeable and knew what they were looking for. The key-date collectible coins sold well for me. I was very impressed with the educational forums that were presented by the HSNA (including the Big Island Coin Club) for the people who attended the show. All in all, it was very successful for us. Thank you, HSNA members, for all your help."

ANA governor and dealer, H. Robert Campbell of All About Coins, Salt Lake City, (UT), commented, "It has been the best selling show in the seven years I have been coming here. I have sold more at this show than any year in the past. We come here mostly because we look forward to renewing old friendships and for the great time we always have."

Don Bonser of Don Bonser Numismatics, Orlando, (FL), remarked, "The show was very, very good. It was more active than the shows I attended here in 1994 and 1996. There were

lots of fresh coins available for purchase. I was very much pleased with buying at the show. Gold and silver dollars were popular. I sold a surprising number of error coins as well. It was a better buying than a selling show."

James A. Hill of Treasure Trove, San Diego, (CA), remarked, "It was a great show. Attendance was off a little, but those who came were buying. A lot of sales were going to the mainland dealers who were looking to replenish their stock after several successful mainland shows. Large paper money and fractionals were sought by dealers. There was interest in bullion, gold over previous years. Almost all the dealers sold out their common gold. Maple leafs and U.S. eagles were the choices over K-rands."

ANA governor, John Wilson of Milwaukee (WI), who was accompanied by his wife, former ANA governor, Nancy, remarked, "This is our first visit to the Islands for this coin show. We found the club members, the dealers in attendance, the show committee, and educational programs to be top-notch. Everyone was friendly and accommodating. No matter what the state of the market is, this would definitely be a place to visit for a great coin show and atmosphere."

California collectors and Krause Publications representatives, Al and Dorothy Baber, stated, "We enjoyed the show immensely. It was a shame that it was a bit slow because of the conflict with the Baltimore, but we talked with a number of dealers who said it was possible to go home early and still have a good show."

Former President of the the Big Island Coin Club, Rick Howsley, who was visiting from Georgia, commented, "It was a pleasure being at the convention, and this show is unique because of its Aloha tradition that draws dealers and collectors here year after year."

This year's show medal featured the second of a series on Hawaiian transportation, the Honolulu Rapid Transit, Oahu 1924, and celebrates the centennial (1898-1998) anniversaries of Kaimuki and Wahiawa towns. Numbered silver and bronze sets produced totaled 240. A limited number of 1-ounce, .999 silver and matching bronze sets are available by mail order for \$25

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plus \$3 for postage, handling and insurance. Please write to HSNA, P.O. Box 477, Honolulu, HI 96809. Also on sale at the convention were: "Birds of Hawaii" silver and bronze sets, No. 7 in the series, depicting the I'iwi. Mail sets are priced at \$25 plus \$3 for postage, handling and insurance. Please send requests to the Honolulu Coin Club, P.O. Box 6063, Honolulu, HI, 96818.

The education forum, extremely popular with attendees, included Bill Fivaz, who spoke on "Hobo Nickels" and "Name That Coin." Bob Campbell's program was "How to be a Successful Coin Dealer." J.P. Martin shared his knowledge of "Counterfeit Detection." John and Nancy Wilson told the audience about "Obsolete Bank Notes." Mike "Steamer" Stanley spoke on "Medals and Exonumia of the U.S.S. Enterprise." Rick Howsley gave a presentation on "Big Island Coin Club Medals." Approximately 86 people attended the educational forums.

Six exhibits were displayed at the convention. Gerald Kwock's 3 case exhibit of "Hawaiian Saloon Tokens of Yesteryear" featured tokens from and pictures of old saloons in Honolulu. Another 3 case display, "Honolulu Coin Club 'Birds of Hawaii Series' " by Crane Saito included the low mintage workers' medals. Paul Luke's exhibit of "California Hotel Hawaiian Islands Tokens" consisted of series One and series Two Sam Boyd's gaming tokens. Wah Kui Young's display was "Uncut Sheets of 1928 \$1 Silver Certificates." "U.S. Military Currency 'A' and 'B' Specimen Notes" was Denis Tomiyasu's exhibit. Mark Yee's display "Pinocchio" honored the 50th anniversary of the release of the movie and included the 6 piece proof set and original case.

At the convention Jim Simek organized a special Sunday drawing for over 30 juniors under the age of 13 (each winning a door prize--and a grand prize of a 1/10th oz. 1998 gold eagle, all donated by dealers).

HSNA officers were elected for the coming year: Gregory B. Hunt, president; Glen Yokoyama, 1st v.p.; Byron Toma, 2nd v.p.; Gary Lau, secretary;

Marion Kendrick, treasurer; Charles Matsuda and Wah Kui Young, Honolulu Coin Club representatives; L.R. "Rick" Howsley and Walt Southward, Big Island Coin Club representatives and Helen L. Carmody Lebo, ANA representative. At the HSNA Board meeting on Saturday morning, November 14th, it was reported that five junior members of the Honolulu Coin Club, under the supervision of Mark Yee, are actively studying numismatics and collecting coins. The Honolulu Coin Club Christmas party will be held December 12th at the Kapahulu Senior Citizen Center, Oahu.

Also at the meeting, Big Island Coin Club representatives advised the club now has 5 junior members and 32 adult members. Its 1999-2000 officers are Derrick Ah Sing, president; George Paiva, vice president; Hunter Bishop, corresponding secretary; Rob Zimmerman, recording secretary; and Byron Toma, treasurer. The BICC meets monthly at the Kamana Senior Center, Kamana Street, Hilo. BICC will hold its Christmas party December 3rd at the Kamana Senior Center.

This year (1998) was the third for HSNA's involvement in the mid-February Hawaii Collectors Expo. Under the helm of Marion F. Kendrick, assisted by the Honolulu Coin Club members, the three day show at the Blaisdell Exhibition Hall was a huge success with an attendance of 9,000 people. It will again be held February 19-21, 1999. The Honolulu Coin Club Statehood Day Coin Show has been a hobby mainstay for years. It is usually scheduled for the Saturday nearest the twenty first of August, the date Hawaii became the 50th star on Old Glory. The club now boasts over 350 members stretching from the Islands across the mainland U.S.

The club's banquet took place Sunday evening, preceded by a no host cocktail hour. Entertainment was provided by Eka Pua Hana, an Island musical group dancing the hula and singing. One highlight of the evening was the presentation on behalf of the the 50th President of the American Numismatic Association, Anthony Swiatek. In President Swiatek's absence, Governor Helen L. Carmody Lebo awarded Greg Hunt, HSNA president, with a

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special certificate naming him an ANA district delegate. Another highlight was that made by Al and Dorothy Baber, representatives of Krause Publications. Crane Saito was named a *Numismatic News* Numismatic Ambassador. Crane has made countless contributions to the Hawaii State Numismatic Association and the Honolulu Coin Club. Both presentations were met with standing ovations on the part of the audience.

The HSNA's 36th anniversary convention is scheduled for November 4-7, 1999. For information regarding the Hawaii State Numismatic Association, please write to HSNA, P.O. Box 477, Honolulu, HI 96809.



SUNDAY YWCA SHOWS IN 1999

By Francis Loo, H.M.S.C.

You're invited to come to the Sunday shows held at the downtown YWCA on Richards St., across from the Iolani Palace. Always on a Sunday, the remaining shows for 1999 will be on: JUNE 13; SEPT. 12 and OCT. 10. The show hours are from 9:30 AM to 3:30 PM.

Why should you come? Let me count the reasons:

- 1) FREE admission
- 2) FREE parking on the street, because it's on a Sunday. (Meters must be fed at the nearby Post Office parking lot.)
- 3) FREE drawing for prizes
- 4) Open for six hours. You can come when it's convenient for you
- 5) Come to buy some nice and/or rare coins and paper money
- 6) Come to sell your coins/paper money

7) Come to learn about: a) the value or rarity of your items (bring some to the show); b) what's going on at mainland shows and auctions. The dealers at this YWCA show participate in auctions conducted by Bowers and Merena, Currency Auctions of America, Heritage, Lyn Knight, Superior and many other major numismatic companies; c) investment success and warning.

8) Come for friendship. Besides the dealers, you'll probably see and meet other collectors with similar interests. The Show is in room 307, spacious and comfortable for pleasant conversation.

9) The restaurant at the YWCA serves gourmet breakfasts which feature lobster, salmon, ribeye steak, prawns, spinach pastry, sweet potato pancakes, etc. Yum! I'm hungry now for the next show.

10) The show probably has the world's renown expert on HAWAIIAN coins and paper money with access to one of the largest inventory/collection of such items.

11) Of course, the old favorite U.S. coins are there, such as large cents, flying eagle cents, buffalo nickels, mercury dimes, standing Liberty quarters, Barber coins, seated Liberty coins, silver dollars, gold coins, large and small size paper money, gold certificates, etc., etc.

12) And, if you might not care about money, then there is a nice selection of U.S., Hawaiian and world stamps.

When you come, you'll probably find many other things which weren't mentioned here. So, come and discover great treasures for your collecting enjoyment. You will profit either financially, educationally or both. For more information, come to a Honolulu Coin Club meeting. I look forward to seeing you at the next Sunday YWCA show.

HONOLULU COIN CLUB

RELAX AND JOIN
A COIN CLUB...
IT'S
A GREAT HOBBY!



Lili'uokalani, Queen of Hawai'i

By Charles Matsuda

Along the walkway between the State Capitol building and the Iolani Palace, there is a beautiful bronze statue of Queen Lili'uokalani. On the pedestal, on which she stands very tall and slender, is written around the mount--Queen of Hawaii 1891-1893 LILI'UOKALANI, Given with Aloha by the people of Hawai'i, E LEI HO'IE LILI'UOKALANI. The statue was designed by Marianna Pineda, an artist from Boston, Massachusetts. She was selected from among the many artists that entered a design competition and was selected by the Hawaii State Legislature and commissioned. The pedestal was neatly designed by Momi Cazimero.

After the death of her brother, King Kalakaua, Queen Lili'uokalani took oath of office proclaiming her as Queen on January 29, 1891. She was a brilliant woman with great courage and compassion but her reign was less than two years during these troubled times. The trouble began when the islands' business men were for Annexation, to protect their interest when they were hurt by President McKinley's Tariff on imported foreign goods. There was an opposition between parties in the legislature. During the change of the ministry, the Queen was determined to draw up a new Constitution which was intended to remove committees who proceeded to destroy the powers of the monarch. This caused a political uproar. Two companies of volunteer troops from the opposition was placed on duty on the palace grounds. On the advice from the ministers, the Queen surrendered her authority under protest.

Soon a Provisional Government was so proclaimed. The Queen appealed to the American government for reinstatement. In 1894, the Constitutional Convention drafted a Constitution for the Republic of Hawai'i. Hoping to restore the monarch into power, about two hundred loyalists, led by Robert

Wilcox, planned an uprising against the Republic. But soon the U.S. cruiser Boston was called to arms. American sailors went ashore "to protect American lives and property". The Republic's National Guardsmen rounded up the loyalists and soon brought them to trial for treason. The Queen was also imprisoned in her own Executive Building. Queen Lili'uokalani had to renounce all claims to the throne in order to obtain clemency for those who took part in the insurrection. Queen Lili'uokalani was also a great composer and author. She wrote beautiful music in Hawaiian and English. Her famous song was "Aloha O'e", or Farewell to Thee. As an author, she wrote "Hawai'i's History by Hawai'i's Queen". She died on November 11, 1917, the last Hawaiian royal ruler, a sovereign of her kingdom, she gained all the hearts of the people of Hawai'i.

The Honolulu Coin Club's third issue wooden token on the series of Statues and Memorial of Hawai'i is on Queen Lili'uokalani. The reverse is on a native Hawaiian plant named 'Oha-wai (clermontia hirsutinervis) a very rare plant belonging to the family of lobelias plants. It has a light reddish purple tubular blossom with a dangling rosette of leaves.

The wooden token can be purchased at 50c per wood plus a self-addressed, stamped envelope. Please send requests to Honolulu Coin Club, P.O. Box 6063, Honolulu, HI 96818. Please add extra stamps if you are purchasing more than one wooden token.



Note: Because the company making the wooden tokens went out of business, the wooden tokens may not be available at the time of the show. We will keep you posted. Thank you for your understanding and patience.

HCC

COLLECTORS EXPO



By Allen Nakano

The Hawaii Collectors Expo '99 Show at the N.B.C., Feb. 19-21, 1999 was a huge success. Most of the vendors were quite pleased with this year's show even though there were less vendors and attendance than last year--7,000 plus paid attendance (2,000 less than in 1998). Sometimes less is better than a lot.

Some attendees said there was not much in new things in this year's show. The price was right as price of collectibles has gone down a bit from past years. This tells us that we need new people with new things that will make next year's show a bigger success (new blood so to speak).

To make the public aware of this year's show, I had only a week or so to get the word out.. It was my idea of writing and/or calling all TV and radio stations, college and university media to attend before the show on Friday but it was not very fruitful.. It was my intention of getting all the media exposure possible for the show.

Lt. Gov. Mazie Hirono was the only one that I knew who attended. As for being her first show in attending this type of function, it was an honor for us to have her (something to remember at election time).

Others who were invited to attend were Gov. Ben Cayetano,(who was out of town), Mayor J. Harris, Superintendent Paul LeMahieu, June Jones, UH football coach. We went to the Saturday morning Hanohano room show with Perry and Price. Many more VIPs were invited to attend but were too busy or may have had prior commitments. My good friend Granny Goose stopped by Saturday and Sunday.

As for being part of this year's show, it was my best show that I had in several years. I don't know if it was my one dollar sales table or I had what people wanted. I spent very little time in my booth with all the running around that I had to do. I greatly appreciate my good friend Richard Oya and Roli del Rosario in helping to man my booth while I was away.

It's not possible to have this sort of show without good reliable help. Thanks to all the valuable volunteers of the H.S.N.A.- Honolulu Coin Club and much to Mr. M. Kendrick and his lovely wife for all the hard work and many hours they put in to make this show a huge success.

A thank you also to the 7,000 plus people who attended. Without your patronage and your support, a show like this could not be possible. Thanks a million, and see you all next year.

Public Relations -Allen K. "Glassman" Nakano

IN MEMORIAM

We were shocked to hear of the passing of our good friend/dealer Harold "Don" King on December 20, 1998, at the young age of 62.

Don was born in Edwardsville, Illinois. He was the owner of Windward Coins in Kailua for over 27 years.

He is survived by his wife Shirley; son, Michael; daughters, Denise, Diane and Sandra.

He will be sorely missed by all who knew him.

IN MEMORIAM

We salute one of our best long time friend
in Hawaii

ANDREW P. NAGY

It was always a pleasure to do business with Andy and we treasure his constant friendship for over the past 30 years. He will be long remembered by us and all of the people who had a chance to meet him.

Rest in peace, Andy.

Earl and Catherine (Bullowa) Moore

The Moores suggest using the money to establish an annual Junior Award fund in his honor.

Send contributions to HSNA, P.O. Box 477, Honolulu, HI 96808.

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Honolulu Coin Club

The Honolulu Coin Club meets every
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Gregory Hunt, president.